

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

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INFO USNMR SHAPE

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AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

S E C R E T USNATO 5841

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR: WORKING GROUP DISCUSSION ON STABILIZING MEASURES
AND NEGOTIATED INSPECTION

VIENNA FOR USDEL MBFR

REF: USNATO 5754

SUMMARY: WORKING GROUP MET NOV 29 AND APPROVED INSPECTION PAPER
(U.S. AD REF). ON STABILIZING MEASURES PAAPER DEBATE AGAIN HINGED
ON EXTENSION OF U.S. NOV 12 MEASURES TO NON U.S./USSR FORCES. UK
POSITION RELAZED FURTHER BUT FRG REP WAS WITHOUT INSTRUCTIONS. NEW
DRAFT WILL BE ISSUED FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION AT NEXT MEETING
DEC 4. END SUMMARY.

1. WORKING GROUP APPROVED WITHOUT FURTHER DISCUSSION ITS REPORT
TO SPC ON TECHNICAL AND MILITARY ASPECTS OF NEGOTIATED INSPECTION,
WHICH INCLUDE LATEST SET OF CHANGES (REFTEL, PARA 4). U.S. REP
MOVED WITH OTHERWISE UNANIMOUS OPINIONCAVEATING ONLY WITH AN AD REF.

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STAFF GROUP WILL ISSUE REVISED CONSOLIDATED TEXT. DOCUMENT WILL
BE PASSED TO SPC BUT NOTING U.S. AD REF APPROVAL. WE WILL TRANSMIT
TEXT WHEN RECEIVED, AND WOULD APPRECIATE AUTHORITY TO LIFT
CAVEAT.

2. TAKING UP PAPER ON TECHNICAL AND MILITARY ASPECTS OF STABILIZING MEASURES, WG CONTINUED DEBATE ON WHETHER THERE WAS ANY MILITARY ADVANTAGE OR DISADVANTAGE TO EXTENDING U.S. NOV 12 MEASURES TO NON U.S. AND SOVIET FORCES DURING FIRST PHASE. FRG REP (DZIALAS) SATED HE HAD NO INSTRUCTIONS, THAT MATTER WAS REGARDED WITH GREAT SERIOUSNESS

IN BONN, BUT THAT FRG WOULD NOT BE IN A POSITION TO SPEAK TO ISSUES IN NATO FORA NEXT WEEK. BELGIAN REP (BURNY) SAID THAT WHILE HIS AUTHORITIES CONTINUED TO SEE IMPORTANT MERIT IN EXTENSION OF MEASURES BELGIAN VIEW WOULD BE AFFECTED BY KEY FRG POSITION.

3. STAFF GROUP THEN HANDED OUT TABLE JUXTAPOSING ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES OF EACH MEASURE. MAJORITY OF REPS CONCLUDED THAT NO PERSUASIVE ARGUMENT COULD BE MADE FROM A MILITARY/TECHNICAL STAND-POINT AS TO THEIR EXTENSION TO NON U.S./USSR FORCES DURING FIRST PHASE. DANISH REP (KROGEN) PROPOSED THAT WG PAPER MERELY INDICATE LANGUAGE TO THIS EFFECT, THAT EXTENSION WAS A POLITICAL ISSUE, AND THAT NEW PARA 6 (REFTEL PARA 5) SHOULD BE DROPPED. WHILE MANY REPS APPROVED, UK REP (SMITH) INSISTED THAT JUDGMENT REFER SPECIFICALLY TO MEASURES BEING APPLIED TO U.S./USSR FORCES DURING FIRST PHASE ONLY, AND THAT NO JUDGMENT BE RENDERED AS TO THEIR DESIRABILITY IN THE SECOND PHASE, GIVEN GENERAL UNCERTAINTY AS TO LATTER'S NATURE AND SCOPE AT THIS TIME. RE FIRST PHASE, UK REP STATED THAT BRITISH VIEW COULD NOT BE FORMULATED TO THE EFFECT THAT UK SAW NO "COMPELLING ADVANTAGES" IN EXTENDING MEASURES DURING FIRST PHASE TO NON U.S./USSR FORCES BUT WAS UNCERTAIN AS TO WHETHER THERE WERE "COMPELLING DISADVANTAGES."

4. WE FINALLY AGREED THAT DRAFT NEEDED SUBSTANTIAL RECASTING. NEW DRAFT WILL BE CIRCULATED FOR CONSIDERATION NEXT WG MEETING DEC 4. MEANWHILE CHAIRMAN WILL REPORT STATUS AND SUBSTANCE OF DISCUSSIONS AT SPC NOV 30 MEETING.

5. COMMENT: IN VIEW OF ABSENCE OF HARD MILITARY JUDGMENTS ON EXTENSION OF MEASURES QUESTION, CONSENSUS APPEARS TO BE GRADUALLY BUILDING TOWARD VIEW THAT IT IS PRIMARILY POLITICAL, HENCE NOT FOR RESOLUTION IN WG. UK POSITION IS PROGRESSIVELY RELAXING RE
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AGREEING TO WG PAPER, ALTHOUGH
NEW TEXT WILL PROBABLY REFLECT DIVIDED WG OPINIONS ON ISSUES OVER WHICH UK CONTINUES TO HAVE RESERVATIONS. KEY ISSUE WILL NOT BE FRG POSITION.
RUMSFELD

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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